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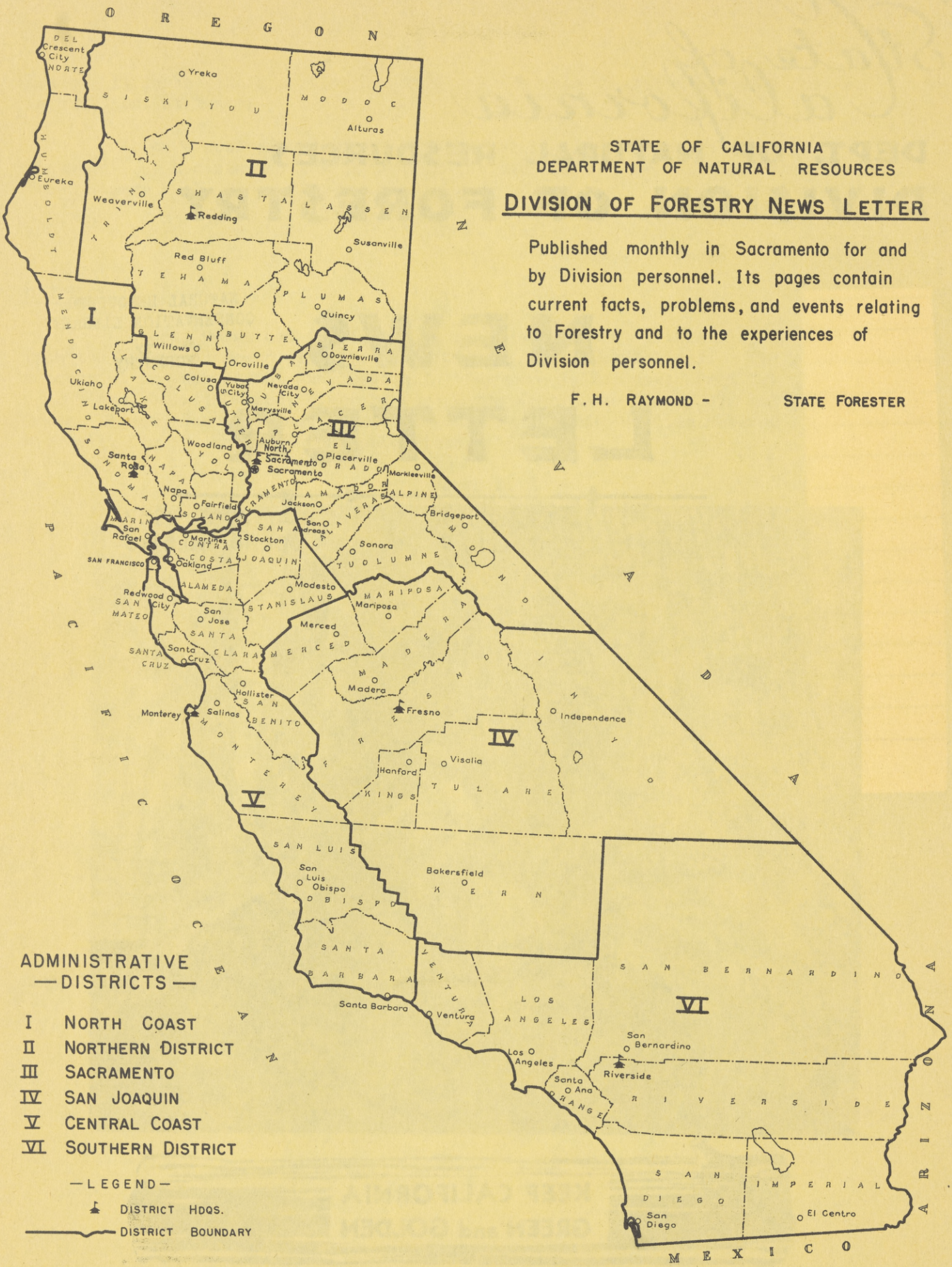


STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY NEWS LETTER

Published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to Forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

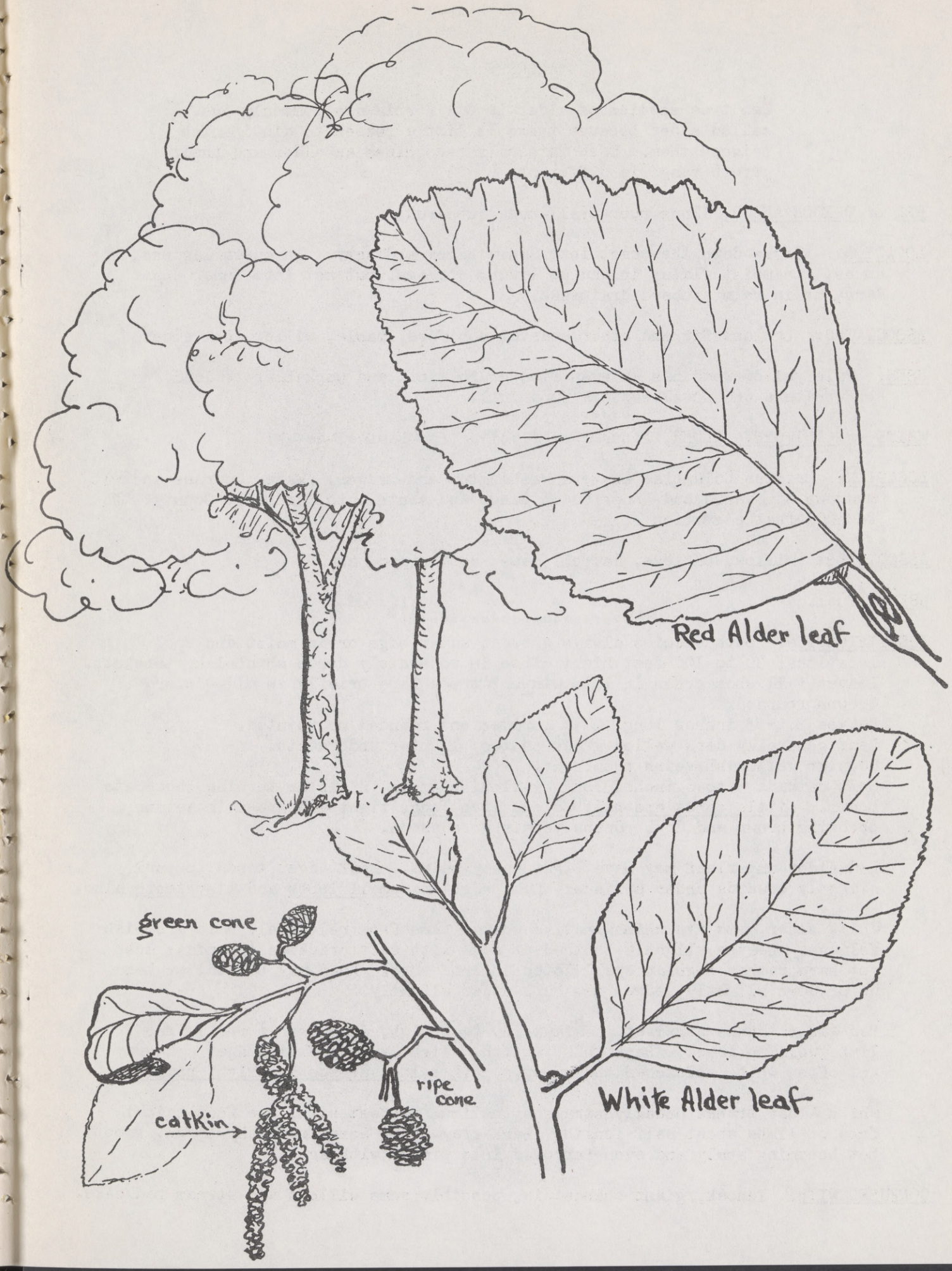
F. H. RAYMOND - STATE FORESTER

ADMINISTRATIVE —DISTRICTS—

I NORTH COAST
II NORTHERN DISTRICT
III SACRAMENTO
IV SAN JOAQUIN
V CENTRAL COAST
VI SOUTHERN DISTRICT

—LEGEND—

DISTRICT HDQS.
DISTRICT BOUNDARY


Red Alder leaf
White Alder leaf
green cone
ripe cone
catkin

ALDER

Two tree species of alder in California are commonly just called alder because there is little reason to distinguish between them. Each is easily recognized as alder and their growth range is different.

RED or OREGON ALDER, Alnus rubra (all-nuss-rube-ruh)

LOCATION: Alaska down the coast into Santa Barbara County. In ocean lagoons, coves, and moist flats; inland up living streams, but not into Inner Coast Range or in warm exposed drainages.

ASSOCIATES: Lowland fir and other coastal conifers, maple, willow, box elder.

USES: Pale yellow wood has an even fine grain, soft and workable. Valued for furniture and novelties. A good fuel.

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WHITE or CALIFORNIA ALDER, Alnus rhombilfolia (rom-ba-foal-ee-ah)

LOCATION: British Columbia, Eastern Washington and Oregon. Water courses and wet meadows of Sierra and Inner Coast Range and south into San Diego County. Up to 6000 feet elevation.

ASSOCIATES: Willow, buckeye, laurel, oaks, cottonwood, ash.

USES: Fuel.

****

IDENTIFICATION: Both species always grow at water edge or in moist and cool locations; 30 to 100 feet high; often in moderately dense shrub-like thickets. Leaves fall when green in late winter; trees bare briefly in mid-winter. Crowns rounded.
Leaves 3 to 5 inches long, 2 to 4 wide; end rounded or pointed.
Leaf generally dark yellow-green on top, lighter underneath.
Regular yellowish veins prominent.
Soft catkins 3 to 6 inches long, yellowish green in winter turning chocolate brown. Little cones one-half to one inch long, tight and green in autumn, becoming brown and dry. Opens to disperse seeds.

Red Alder underleaf may have light rusty hairs. Leaf edge tends to curl slightly towards under surface. Leaf edge has small lobes and tiny teeth also.

White Alder gets its unimaginative common name from relatively pale greenish foliage. Leaves slightly toothed at edge with soft prickles (glands); does not have rather regular small lobes in leaf edge. Leaf may be flat or bend up or down slightly, edges may curl under slightly.

Red Alder trunks straight, maximum 130 feet high, diameter 2½ feet; free from limbs well up trunk. Bark thin, smooth, slightly ridged with age; ash-gray and often white splotched and mossy. Bark below surface is bright red-brown.

White Alder trunks usually straight, maximum 80 feet high, one foot thick; free of limbs about half length. Bark gray-brown sometimes ashy-brown, smooth but becoming scaly and even furrowed into plates with age.

CONFUSED WITH: Tanoak, giant chinquapin, possibly some willows and stream bed oaks.

APRIL ACTIVITIES

FIRE CONTROL: The weather during the month of April was quite variable with the first two weeks being more on the dry side. This ended abruptly when the first of a series of storm fronts developing over the Pacific Ocean moved across the northern part of the State, and eventually these storms brought from moderate to heavy amounts of rain and hail over nearly the entire State with snow at higher elevations. During the last part of the month most of the State experienced a very warm period.

Except for what might be considered two fair sized fires for the period March 20 to April 20, very little fire activity in Zones 1 and 2 was experienced. The first fire in San Diego County started March 24 and burned 180 acres of brush. The second in Santa Cruz County started April 5, and burned 85 acres of timber and 130 acres of brush for a total of 215 acres.

Meetings were held with Districts IV, V, and VI to assist in the preparation of the 1958-59 Fiscal Year radio budget requests, and to discuss forest fire dispatching procedures for the coming fire season.

The Division participated in a three-day air attack conference in Redding sponsored by the U. S. Forest Service and the California Forest and Range Experiment Station. Representatives of the western states and Forest Service regions attended to learn the latest techniques of aerial fire fighting developed through the joint efforts of the State and Forest Service in California. Various means of using aircraft in making faster attacks on fires and aiding ground forces in their control were demonstrated. Helicopters were used to make extended hose lays and to drop water and fire retarding chemicals. A converted agricultural spray plane made larger drops of 125 gallons of liquid to show its effectiveness at various altitudes. The demonstrations were climaxed by drops with a converted torpedo bomber. One of seven acquired by the Forest Service for use on forest fires was equipped with a 400 gallon aluminum tank built by the Division of Forestry in the Davis Shop. Two hydraulically actuated gates permit a partial or complete drop of liquid or chemical. Following their modifications and field testing on early season fires in New Mexico, the ship will be available for use on Forest Service or State Fires throughout California this season.

Pilot areas were selected in most districts for use in the field application of the joint Fire Danger Rating system. This system is the result of a co-operative program between the State, Forest Service, California Forest and Range Experiment Station, and the U. S. Weather Bureau. Two years of research and joint effort produced a system which after trial on limited test areas will be extended throughout California for use by all of the forest fire control agencies.

FOREST, RANGE, AND WATERSHED MANAGEMENT: Personnel: John Ritchey, formerly working as a trainee/foreman at Monterey, was appointed Assistant Forest Technician at the Davis headquarters nursery on April 12th. He replaced Assistant Forest Technician Don Goddard who resigned to accept a nursery position with the Rhinelander Paper Company in Wisconsin.

Training: A comprehensive training session on forest management for assistant rangers in the Central Sierra District was conducted at the Sutter Hill Ranger Station during the first three weeks of April. One assistant ranger

from each of the seven ranger units in the district and two Forestry trainees attended. Basic forestry subjects like dendrology, silviculture, mensuration, soils, management, logging, entomology, and range management were included. Instruction was provided by personnel from the district, the State Forester's office, the forest industry, and the California Forest and Range Experiment Station.

Training schools in soil-vegetation surveys were held in the Mendocino and Humboldt Ranger Units during the month also. Those receiving the instruction consisted of assistant rangers and patrolmen. The purpose of the training was to acquaint local personnel with the methods of the survey, the maps and other information produced, and the application of them to educational work of the Division with ranchers and timber owners. The survey, which is a co-operative project between the Division, the University of California, and the California Forest and Range Experiment Station, has been completed in Mendocino, Lake, and Glenn Counties. Survey work is now proceeding in Humboldt and Tehama. The instruction was given by specialists from the California Forest and Range Experiment Station with the assistance of the local district and Sacramento staff representatives.

Timber Taxation: A meeting of the joint Board of Equalization - Board of Forestry timber taxation study committee was held in Sacramento on April 17th. The final representation on the Committee was decided to be one member from the Board of Equalization, 3 members from the Board of Forestry, 3 County Assessors, one member from the University of California School of Forestry, and one representative from the Board of Equalization staff to serve as secretary. Dr. Henry Vaux, Dean of the School of Forestry was elected chairman. The outline of the study was reviewed and assignments made amongst committee members for completing sections of the study which will center on Mendocino County.

State Forests: The State received $564850.71 from the sale of 23.7 million board feet of timber, Christmas trees and other forest products sold from State Forests in California in 1956. In addition, 120,000 board feet of logs were sold from the Forest Ranch Forest Fire Station in Butte County for $4,091.20. Last year 18,556,120 board feet of timber were sold from Jackson State Forest in Mendocino County, 4,213,910 board feet from the Latour State Forest in Shasta County, and 761,513 board feet of timber from Mountain Home State Forest in Tulare County. Since cutting began in 1946, some 97.2 million board feet of timber and other forest products have been harvested from State Forests for commercial purposes bringing a return to the State of over 1½ million dollars.

On the three most active forests, which include Jackson State Forest, Latour State Forest, and Mountain Home State Forest, considerable effort in addition to current timber sales was devoted to administration and management, experimental, and demonstrational activities. Some of the highlights of accomplishments by Forests in 1956 over and above the supervision of current sales was as follows:

Jackson State Forest: A major old-growth timber sale was prepared and awarded to Willits Redwood Products Company of Willits, the highest bidder, involving some 17.6 million feet of timber to be logged during 1957 and bring an estimated return of $461,120. A 42 acre thinning experiment in a young-growth Douglas fir and redwood stand was initiated to study the effects of cutting on the growth and quality of the remaining trees. Some 23,000 trees were planted on 27 acres of cut-over and understocked lands. Planting trials

to find the best time to plant were started in November, 1956. Eight acres were sown to Douglas fir in seed spots. Chemically treated seeds, as well as untreated seeds, and baits for rodents were used to test their effectiveness in aiding regeneration where rodents have been a problem. Much effort was given to road and bridge construction projects vital to the timber sale program, and administration of the Forest.

Latour State Forest: Trees for the 1957 and 1958 timber sales were marked on a group selection basis to convert an old-growth stand to a thrifty residual stand and secure natural regeneration where trees are cut. Some 6.9 million feet of timber was marked for cutting on 430 acres. An experimental brush clearing plot was established using power saws to release fir seedlings under the brush. The effects of release from competition will be watched closely. Several brush plots were treated with chemical herbicides to test their effectiveness in controlling brush that has captured timber sites. Forest regeneration experiments using chemically treated seed, untreated seed, and protective screens were initiated to determine their effectiveness in controlling rodents on planting sites. Twenty-three acres within the blister rust control area received treatment during 1956.

Mountain Home State Forest: Timber on 400 acres was inventoried for detailed information for management and timber sale planning purposes. Artificial forest regeneration studies were continued and natural regeneration experiments were initiated to improve forest growth on unstocked and poorly stocked timber lands. These experiments include trials in planting, seed bed preparation, spot seeding, rodent control, mechanical and chemical control of competitive vegetation, and by combinations of these methods. Four thousand Jeffrey pine and ponderosa pine trees were planted last year. Much progress was made for the control of white pine blister rust by digging and spraying gooseberry bushes on 233 acres. A great deal of work was also done in developing physical improvements and in hazard abatement by felling dead trees and burning slash and debris accumulations.

Reforestation: Some 10,000 sugar pine and incense cedar seedlings were planted during March on Cuyamaca Rancho State Park in San Diego County under a joint project by the Division of Forestry and Division of Beaches and Parks, for rehabilitation of the Conejos burn of 1951. This is the third year of a project to reforest this burn. To date 117,300 trees have been planted. The planting stock was raised in the State Forest Nurseries and planted by inmate labor from nearby Honor Camps under the supervision of Forestry and Park personnel. Seeding of 34 pounds of a number of pines and incense cedar also was made. Some of the seeding was by broadcast methods and some by spots with and without rodent proof clyinderical screens.

JUNE ACTIVITIES

FIRE CONTROL: Except for a few days of critical weather, burning conditions were well below average during most of May. A few lightning storms were experienced during the latter part of the month, but in most of the areas some moisture occurred and no serious fires started.

For the period April 20 to May 20, the Division of Forestry had 28 fires in the watershed and forest areas burning a total of 95 acres. The largest fire of the 28 burned approximately 40 acres.

Final preparations were made to reactivate the Division's experimental lightning control project in District II. Experiences last year were used to determine operating procedures for this year. A large number of silver iodide ground generators will be located in an area which usually experiences a high lightning fire incidence. These will be activated during periods of thunder storm buildup in order to determine if reduction or elimination of lightning fires is possible. A contract with the California Forest and Range Experiment Station will provide for the services of a statistical meteorologist who will assist in the evaluation. Aerial flights over this and adjoining areas in Northern California to determine the quantities and locations of artificial and natural nucleation (the "trigger" which causes clouds to break up, rain to fall, etc). For this purpose a "cold box" was recently purchased. This apparatus consists of a super-cooled and lighted chamber into which a sample of air may be injected. A magnified viewing lens permits the operator to count the number of nuclei present. This and other representative samples may then be applied to a large area. This information should prove valuable in studying cloud behavior and the extent to which treatment is effective.

FIRE PREVENTION: Members from Southern California joined with Northern California members at a meeting of the California Fire Prevention Committee in San Francisco this month. The committee membership is composed of leaders from business, industry, informational services, labor, and governmental agencies. The co-operative program is directed jointly by the State Forester and the U. S. Regional Forester in a mass educational forest fire prevention program. An unusually large number of members, representing wide interests, attended the meeting. The interest displayed and active participation by those in attendance indicated that this was probably the most effective meeting to date. Awards for outstanding public service in the field of forest fire prevention were made to the Foster and Kleiser Company and the General Telephone Company of California.

Prints of a 12 3/4-minute, black and white motion picture, "Careless Crime," and eleven spots from 8 seconds to 2 minutes in length were received from the vendor for use on television and in motion picture theaters. This featurette and trailers were planned and produced by the Fire Prevention Section. Interest is developing for use of the featurette as a training aid, and for educational purposes by our field personnel. There has also been interest expressed for the purchase of prints for nation-wide distribution through the Smokey Bear program.

FOREST, RANGE, AND WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

Forest Practices: An alternate plan for Keith M. and Sue T. Ferguson of Julian was approved by the State Board of Forestry in Visalia on May 16, 1957. This plan permits a deviation from the South Sierra Pine Forest Practice Rules with respect to cutting small trees to improve forest growth for Christmas tree production. The area being devoted to growing Christmas trees is to be planted with 1,000 to 1,500 seedlings per acre.

State Forests: A thorough grazing survey of Mountain Home State Forest was made during the summer of 1956 to determine the availability of suitable forage for domestic livestock purposes and to provide information for use in establishing a policy regarding grazing on this forest. This range survey was reported to the State Board of Forestry on May 16, 1957, in Visalia.

Timber Taxation: The Timber Maturity Board, as established by Section 12-3/4 of the State Constitution, examined forest properties in Mendocino

County during the month of May to determine the maturity of the young-growth timber thereon for tax purposes. The maturity board consists of one member from the Board of Forestry, one representative from the State Board of Equalization, and the local County Assessor. The board convened on May 8th and May 29th and declared timber on 23 properties to be mature.

Forest Insects: During late April and early May the Division of Forestry co-operated in conducting an aerial survey of the forest insect conditions in the State. One observer was furnished by the Division to assist the California Forest and Range Experiment Station entomologists in flying most of the State. No exceptionally unusual epidemics were found although the extent of previously reported ground observations were delineated. The North Coast area of the State remains to be covered.

Forest Diseases: During mid-May the Division of Forestry conducted a training school on the subject of forest diseases at the Dew Drop Camp in Amador County. The session was held with the assistance and co-operation of forest pathologists from the California Forest and Range Experiment Station. Those in attendance primarily consisted of technical field foresters from the Division although a limited number from other organizations was invited. The purpose of the school was to better prepare field men to detect and report forest diseases encountered in regular work.

Soil-Vegetation Survey: A two-day training session in the use of Soil-Vegetation Survey maps was held at Red Bluff on May 21 and 22, 1957. This school was under joint sponsorship of the California Division of Forestry and the Agriculture Extension Service of Tehama County.

Some forty-four persons attended the school. There was a good representation from the timber industry, and public agencies, and a few from the livestock industry. On the first day the methods used in producing the maps and some suggestions for their use were covered in classroom sessions. On the second day a transect of soils and vegetation from the valley floor into the commercial conifer forests of the mountain was examined in the field.

Comments from a number of participants indicate the school was very helpful in enabling them to understand the maps and put them to better use.

Watershed Management: The afternoon session of the meeting of the Board of Forestry at Visalia on May 16, 1957, was devoted to discussion of "Range Watershed Relationships of California Foothill Lands." A number of speakers from various agencies discussed several phases of this subject. William L. Berry of the Department of Water Resources, introduced the subject with a review of the "California Water Plan," emphasizing some of the relationships between local watersheds and water supply for the State as a whole. Ralph Worrell, Farm Advisor of Tulare County, gave an interesting discussion of possibilities of increasing local water supplies through controlling riparian vegetation. Current watershed research of the California Forest and Range Experiment Station, and some of its applications to range management on the foothills were discussed by Percy B. Rowe, of the San Dimas Research Center; Dr. Robert Burgy, University of California at Davis, covered the current activity of the University in watershed research. The discussions were concluded by Chandler Jensen, who pointed out some of the relationships between forage production and water production on foothill range lands, and emphasized the need for application of sound range management principles.

This theme of range-watershed relationships was carried over to the field tour of the Board on the following day when Dr. Henry W. Anderson, of the California Forest and Range Experiment Station discussed current watershed research at the Teakettle Experimental area in Fresno County; Clark Gleason, also of the California Forest and Range Experiment Station, discussed indicators of erosion and pointed out how use of these indicators could be helpful to ranchers.

Engineering: The Addition to the barracks-messhall at Parlin Fork Honor Camp in Mendocino County has been completed.

The new shop building at Howard Forest Ranger Station in Mendocino County is completed.

The new administrative map of San Luis Obispo County has been received from the Division of Printing and will be sent to the District for their use this fire season.

A transport shed has been completed at Pilot Hill Forest Fire Station in El Dorado County.

The electrical wiring at Branch Mountain Repeater Station in San Luis Obispo County has been completed.

NEWS NOTE

Anyone interested in the earliest days of the U. S. Forest Service should not miss the lively personal story told by Coert duBois in his book, "Trail Blazers," published in June, 1957, at his home town by the Stonington (Connecticut.) Publishing Company ($3.75).

duBois was a student at Biltmore in 1900 and then went to work for Pinchot as one of the first survey and "boundary boys." He came to California as assistant to the first District Forester in 1908. In 1911 he was raised to that position himself. The story ends at the First World War when duBois entered the Foreign Service. Never one to mince words, duBois keeps, "Trail Blazers," well spiced with the actions and observations of one who blazed his share when a huge uncharted task rested so largely upon just a few American youngsters of his type.

C. R. Clar

A PROPHECY

Fifty years ago the name Charles Howard Shinn was well known in conservation and literary circles of California. Among other things, this prominent citizen had served as one of the first forest reserve rangers before the U. S. Forest Service was created. By 1907 Shinn had already spent 40 years of intensive wandering throughout the hinterlands of California.

In the October, 1907, issue of Water and Forest magazine, Shinn made a few predictions about the future of the Sierra foothill country. At that date only a few spluttering gas wagons and fewer electric lights had been seen by the thinly scattered residents of the foothills. The world was certainly going to be different and it was a boom time for prophets.

In brief, Shinn predicted the following:

(a) More equitable legislation compelling all users of water to pay a fair but sufficient tax to the State and Nation -- to all the people, who really own the water.

(b) Very much more timber of better quality, more cheaply handled, with infinitely less waste.

(c) More livestock and better meadows everywhere in the mountains.

(d) Gradual elimination of the "brush country" of the foothills, the extension of the true forest to lower levels, the creation of true woodland-chiefly oaks - in what is now the brush belt.

(e) The re-discovery, by a process of scientific study and elimination of the tremendous value for home seekers of the vast foothill areas.

(f) The consequent use of such foothills for olives, grapes, peaches, and a great variety of tree and vine crops.

(g) The gradual but steady settlement of the present foothill belt of Central California --- so that now undreamed of surpluses of water and power-- will be utilized clear down to the valley edge.

(h) Everywhere in these foothills wherever homes cannot be made the waste places will be planted with eucalyptus, acacias, locust, and various trees for firewood, fencing, and other purposes

(i) Surplus water and power will be utilized everywhere for driving machinery, for transportation, and for all the complex purposes of a coming civilization.

QUESTION: How are we doing?

Mr. Ed Blakeslee, President of The General Telephone Company of California, accepted the California Fire Prevention Committee's annual award for outstanding public service for his company in San Francisco last May 21.

The General Telephone Company has a long record of active participation in forest fire prevention, and the following contribution by Mr. Blakeslee in Rota-Monica, the publication of the Rotary Club of Santa Monica, indicates their continued all-out co-operation:

IT'S LIGHT UP TIME by Ed Blakeslee

I selected the title to this article with some misgivings because I did not want to be commercial. My apologies to a well-known brand of cigarettes. I think, however, the title is significant because we are approaching the vacation season and the time when the great American public takes to the highways, byways, and the mountains--the locale of our great national resources--the timber lands and forest playgrounds. It is a sad commentary but true that the greater proportion of our wild and destructive fires are man made--and of these the smoker is the greatest offender. Now I would want to make it clear that the product of any one

cigarette manufacturer is no more incendiary than that of any other. It is not the product that is the culprit but rather we the users.

We have a law in this state about throwing cigars, cigarettes and matches out of the window of a moving vehicle and I think perhaps most of us who live in the state and have seen the ravages of forest fires are conscious of this danger and conform to the law. But we are creatures of habit and I find visitors from other states flicking cigarettes out the window as we drive along the highway. I have developed a habit of saying to a visitor, "Now if you are going to smoke, roll that window up so you won't unthinkingly toss the lighted cigarette into our countryside."

Our rains this year have been fortuitously spaced; our countryside is greener at this season than it has been for many a year. But let us not be lulled into a false sense of security because the very lushness of the growth means that we will have more roadside grasses during the fall months when things will be the dryest and our relative humidity the lowest. I can only say "Take it to heart, fellows. Be a good camper, a good citizen and keep our state Green and Golden."

ANNIVERSARY FOR PIONEER FIRE TOWER

For 35 years expert eyes have peered from atop the 60-foot steel tower of Bielawski Lookout Station south of Saratoga Gap, searching for tell-tale smoke.

The lone fire-watch outpost in the Santa Cruz-Santa Clara County area for years, its vigilance prevented many a fire ests.

The lookout station observes its 35th anniversary tomorrow. On July 2, 1922, the Bielawski tower was dedicated amid pomp, ceremony and 250 persons.

In the early days, half the spawning forest fires occurring in the region were reported from the tower. A person there can see for miles in all directions. Throughout the fire season, towermen worked a seven-day week.

Today three other outposts share in the constant summer-time smoke-watch and the men who man them work a five-day week. Other towers are at Pacheco Peak, Copernicus Peak and on Loma Prieta.

Only some 15 to 20 per cent of new fires are now spotted from Bielawski tower, according to State Forest Ranger George Britton. The rest are reported first by the other lookout posts, by airplane pilots or by private citizens.

In the days when the tower was built, the State Forest Service had almost no funds and the cost of construction was borne by the counties of Santa Clara and Santa Cruz, along with San Mateo County and the State Division of Highways. It was built by state rangers during the winter and spring months.

The tower is located two miles south of Saratoga Gap on Skyline boulevard extension on the high point of Castle Rock Ridge. It is on the Santa Cruz - Santa Clara County boundary.

San Jose Mercury - July 1, 1957

IS THIS THE LARGEST PONDEROSA PINE?

Although Oregon may have the tallest ponderosa pine, (see December issue of The Timberman, page 121), Californians claim the largest. The pine at Meyers Valley, Oregon was reported to be 246 feet high and up to 57 inches in diameter-containing 14,000 board feet of lumber. Referring to it, Howard W. Blagen, Manager, Associated Lumber & Box Company, Wilseyville, California, writes:

"While we can appreciate that this is a big tree for Oregon, it would almost be in the second-growth classification down here in Calaveras County." He sent the following statistics "on what we consider a pretty fair-sized ponderosa that was cut in this vicinity back in 1949."

Logged by Blagen Lumber Company from the lands of the Calaveras Land & Timber Corp., the California ponderosa pine measured 100 inches in diameter at breast height, was 350 years old and 229 feet high. The tree was bucked into thirteen 16-foot 8-inch logs and contained a merchantable volume of 38,160 board feet.

Sam H. Bryan, Forester, Calaveras Land & Timber Corp., Mokelumne Hill, California, reports that according to Forest Service records of that time, the tree was the greatest ponderosa in both volume and diameter at breast height ever felled or known to exist. "To date, there has never been a larger ponderosa pine reported in any publication on big trees which I have seen, and the only thing to top it at all is the height of the ponderosa pine located in Meyers Valley in Oregon."

WHAT IS BEST TIME TO PLANT SEEDLINGS

Test seedling plantings are under way in Northern California to determine the best time to plant Douglas fir. This action follows a similar experiment with ponderosa pine which appeared to establish a "best period" for planting ponderosa seedlings.

Nearly 900 Douglas fir seedlings have been planted on Simpson Redwood Company land in a co-operative experiment with the University of California. It is under direction of Dr. Edward Stone, U.C. forest ecologist, Edward Gilden, agricultural extension forester, and Henry Froelich, Simpson Redwood, D.W. Cooper, farm adviser is assisting.

In an earlier test on ponderosa pine, Stone determined that in one 6-week period nearly 70% of the new root growth took place. If 1- and 2-year-olds were planted at this time, nearly 90% of them survived.

Conversely, only 10% of the Douglas fir survived.

In early March, some 450 trees were planted near Orick. In late March an additional 450 were planted and in mid-April a third group of 450 was added. Later Cooper and Froelich will begin pulling sample trees every three months to determine the amount of root growth during that period. In this way, they expect to determine the most desirable time to put seedlings in the ground.

ABOUT THE DIVISION

The following appointments have been made effective July 1, 1957:

Levi T. Burcham appointed Assistant Deputy State Forester, State Forester's Office, Forest Management Section.

Leonard R. Chatten appointed Assistant Deputy State Forester, State Forester's Office, Fire Control Section in charge of Fire Research, Fire and Equipment Planning, Equipment Development, Construction, Maintenance. (This is a reclassification of an existing Ranger II position.)

John Tomblin transferred from Assistant Deputy State Forester, District III to Assistant Deputy State Forester, State Forester's Office, Fire Control Section in charge of Fire Dispatching, Communications Development, Fire Plans and Fire Statistics, U. S. Forest Service Relations, Schedule A Planning, Independent County Relations.

Don Knowlton, Ranger in Nevada County, appointed Assistant Deputy State Forester, District III vice John Tomblin.

William T. Jacobson transferred from Assistant Deputy State Forester, District IV to Assistant Deputy State Forester, State Forester's Office, Engineering Section in charge of Honor Camps co-ordination and Executive Officer of Engineering Staff.

Howard Moore, Ranger in Tuolumne County, appointed Assistant Deputy State Forester, District IV vice Jacobson.

Associate Ranger William Jamieson promoted to State Forest Ranger in the District III headquarters in Sacramento.

Associate Ranger Ross Dunwoody promoted to State Forest Ranger, Fire Control Office (Schedule A Co-ordination), Sacramento.

Associate Ranger Lewis L. Reese promoted to State Forest Ranger, Fire Control Office (Small Watershed Planning), Sacramento.

Associate Ranger Thomas Honeycutt promoted to State Forest Ranger, Fire Prevention Office, Sacramento.

Forest Technician Charles Columbro appointed State Forest Ranger, District I Headquarters, Santa Rosa.

Associate Ranger Howard Bromwell promoted to State Forest Ranger, District II Headquarters, Redding.

Forest Technician Buel Hunt transferred to State Forest Ranger, training center, District III.

Associate Ranger Jack Amundsen promoted to State Forest Ranger, Tuolumne Ranger Unit, Sonora.

Associate Ranger Henry Arnold promoted to State Forest Ranger, District IV Headquarters, Fresno.

Associate Ranger Jack Burke promoted to State Forest Ranger, District VI headquarters, Riverside.

Associate Ranger Walter Francis promoted to State Forest Ranger, training center, District VI.

Associate Ranger James H. Dulitz promoted to State Forest Ranger, District V Headquarters, Monterey.

Forest Technician Robert Burns transferred to State Forest Ranger, Nevada Ranger Unit, Nevada City.

In addition, the following appointments have been made on the dates indicated:

Trainee Chesley W. Waklee appointed Assistant Ranger in Amador County, District III, effective May 1, 1957.

Dispatcher Vernon E. Cassell, Yuba County, reclassified to Assistant Ranger and transferred to El Dorado County May 1, 1957.

Assistant Ranger (Dispatcher) Frank Noyes transferred to Nevada-Yuba Ranger Unit May 1, 1957.

Trainee Donald S. McCutchan appointed Assistant Ranger in Napa County on May 31, 1957.

Johnie L. Dick, former Trainee, appointed Assistant Ranger in Mendocino County, May 31, 1957.

Walter Bemis appointed Forestry Trainee in District III.

Forest Technician Robert H. Blanford transferred to District VI to replace Paul Sischo, who recently retired.

FIRST AID TRAINING

Thirty employees in Shasta County have recently completed their Standard Red Cross First Aid course, according to Ranger John Lockhart.

Assistant Deputy State Forester Tomblin reports that an ultimate goal in District III is to have all permanent employees pass the Standard Red Cross course and to have enough men in each Ranger Unit qualify as instructors to keep the program alive. All Foremen in Tuolumne are now qualified as instructors and Nevada and El Dorado units also have qualified instructors.

Leon J. Lefebvre, Training Officer

KINGS COUNTY

The uncommon May weather put a damper on outdoor events in this area. It slowed down barley harvesting and cotton chopping. However, our annual Homecoming Day parade was held in spite of the rain. Just proof the descendants of the early day settlers inherited the hardiness and determination of their forefathers.

Corky MacFarlane of the Armona Station has commenced duties with the Marine Corps. Randle Watkins, a familiar figure at headquarters, was transferred to MacFarlane's post. Young Jim Kirklin left the Murray Station and is now the relief driver between Armona and Hall's Corner. He replaces Bill Teague. New faces are Jack Easley at headquarters and Raymond Thompson at Murray.

Ranger C. E. Lindley, our 'pop' attended the National Fire Association meeting in Los Angeles. He found the sessions he attended very valuable and always returns with a new cure for an old problem.

Lindley's reputation as a barbecue chef has reached every corner in Kings County. He has been preparing menus and food for organizations throughout the area. His recipes for outdoor and underground cooking put him in a class for gourmets.

Our fishermen are having good luck and getting their limits come rain or shine.

The boys at headquarters are reaping a harvest of radishes - their first crop in their recently planted vegetable garden. By early summer they will have everything for the salad bowl.

Vacation discussions have commenced and it looks like the majority for the coast. Hope your plans turn out to be the best ever.

Florence Appell, Clerk Dispatcher

MADERA-MERCED RANGER UNIT

The Madera-Merced Ranger Unit received a request from Mr. Edward H. Peek, Scout Executive of the Sequoia Council, Boy Scouts of America, for a program to be presented at the Scout Camporee on the 27th of April, 1957, to be held at the Boy Scout Camp Grounds on Lewis Creek in the Oakhurst area, Madera County.

The Assistant Ranger of the Raymond District was given the assignment for this program. He contacted the Fire Control Officer of the Sierra National Forest at North Fork and between them they arranged to put on a demonstration for the boys in use of bulldozer, hand crews, and crew truck in fire suppression activity. Also, demonstrated the methods in insect control in ponderoa pine.

The 307 boys and leaders in attendance demonstrated considerable interest in the procedures.

R. J. Moran
State Forest Ranger

LETTER TO JOHN LEWIS FROM MR. EDWARD H. PEEK, SCOUT EXECUTIVE

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, and all that assisted you, in your demonstration April 27th at the Boy Scout Camporee.

"The wonderful co-operation that we have received from you and your department through the years, is something that won't be forgotten and if at any time we can be of service to you, please let us know.

"Possibly, you would be interested in knowing that 307 boys and leaders took part in the Camporee.

"Thanking you again, I remain,

"Very truly yours,
s/ Edward H. Peek
Scout Executive"

RALPH WILLIAMS, FORMER FRESNO FIRE CHIEF, PASSES

Many of our personnel will remember Chief Williams because of his untiring efforts as fire co-ordinator for the State in 1942. We recall the urgent trips which Chief Williams and Deputy State Forester Mace made to Washington, D.C., and other cities at which time they set forth our critical needs for strategic materials and/or supplies. Although Chief Williams had been in poor health for a number of years, his passing came as a shock to his many friends in the fire services, not only in California, but throughout the Nation. In the passing of Chief Williams the Division of Forestry, as well as others in the fire services in California, have lost a loyal supporter and true friend.

He is survived by his widow, Hazel; Captain Donald Williams of the Fresno Fire Department; a daughter, Mrs. Dorothy Imus of Burlingame, San Mateo County; and a twin brother, Walter of Fresno. Funeral services were conducted by the Center Masonic Lodge in the Lisle Funeral Home 9 a.m. Saturday, June 22nd.

C. E. Metcalf, Deputy State Forester

District VI

People make news, they say, so we'll pass on a few items which leaked past the four walls of this Dispatch Room.

Back in his own home is Neil Parker, the unfortunate victim of a smoke bomb last February. New to Rainbow CDC Camp is FWPF Lynn LaJoie, late of Fresno County. Equally new to Morena Camp is FWPF Earl H. Boren, lately of High Rock Camp. Gone, but not forgotten, is our ex-Forest Technician Paul Sischo, now retired and just settled at 314 Lomitas Lane, Santa Rosa. Paul was the recipient of a number of going-away presents, one of which was a lovely travel suitcase. In Paul's place is Bob Blanford. Funny coincidence is that both Paul and Bob lived in Santa Monica for many years.

Ranger Ed Bailey was here in early May to attend our annual meeting of Southern California Foresters and Fire Wardens Association at Barton Flats. With him, he brought his silver iodide rainmaker "machine." He was requested to put the "juice" in it, but clouds were already threatening our outdoor demonstrations. So he declined, but the smell or something was sufficient. Rain started in three hours and continued for a dozen days while the box was here, and then stopped when we mailed it north. Result: Wettest May in 25 years and a record low May fire occurrence.

It's tough to get a vacation here except in February and March, but several crews will have some of the usual vacation trappings this summer. Three recently established stations will have tent barracks. They are Miller, Dulzura, and Flinn Springs. The latter, plus Julian, now have construction underway on

the permanent buildings.

Received by the District is the new Eimco bulldozer, equivalent to a D-7, product of a Salt Lake City manufacturer. There was not one kind word for this front-end operated dozer before its arrival, but now it is receiving some reserved applause. Seems as though the Eimco can do some things as well as, if not better than our conventional dozers.

Orange County, our smallest, and about the size of Lake County, recently passed the half-million population mark. That many concentrated people will keep you busy. Witness -- Ranger Scherman has 33 County-owned fire trucks under him plus OCD & CDC.

Once upon a time there was a 160-acre fire in San Diego County named Shady Dell. It was a warm, dry March day, and a mild Santana wind was blowing. Very recently, a Shady Dell Ranch property owners was convicted in Ramona Justice Court and fined $250 for burning without a permit. And that's the rare happy ending of that story. Also, this is the end of District VI's May story.

Doug Glenn, Dispatcher